

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

- 5aM b3 1. (Amended) An apparatus for recording and playing a digital signal, comprising:
- a receiver for receiving [a] an encrypted digital signal;
 - a memory connected to said receiver for storing said encrypted digital signal;
 - a recorder connected to said receiver for recording onto a first recording medium said stored encrypted digital signal upon selection of a predetermined command;
 - a player for playing said first recording medium and connected to a card reader; and
 - a card having a predetermined value for insertion into said card reader;
- wherein when said card is inserted into said card reader, said card reader verifies that said predetermined value is at least a selected minimum value and authorizes said player to [play] decipher said first recording medium.
- A 2. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, [wherein said received digital signal is encrypted, and] further comprising:
- a key to decipher said encrypted digital signal, said key being stored in one of said card and a memory device in said player.

REMARKS

By this Amendment, the specification has been amended to correct spelling and numbering errors. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the digital signal is encrypted, and that the player